Weekly Views

Be informed about the Indiana Department of Correction

"Criticism, like rain, should be gentle enough to nourish a man's growth without destroying his roots." ~ Frank A. Clark

Friday, September 25, 2009

Lt. Gov. Becky Skillman visited Central Office as a guest judge for the SECC chili cook-off. Chief of Staff Dan Ronay and Communications Chief Doug Garrison were also judges. Central Office also had an SECC bake sale and hot dog lunch.

Reception Diagnostic Center concluded an ACA audit this week and was recommended for re-accreditation with a score of 100% on mandatory standards, and 94.7% on non-mandatory standards. Great job!

Logansport Juvenile employees participated in the local Cass County YMCA Corporate Challenge and won the softball championship. It was the facility's third championship. Congratulations to those who participated in the tournament!

Three teams of agents and supervisors from the Indianapolis Parole Office (PD3) participated with the Marion County Probation Department and the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department in a multi-jurisdictional effort at reducing violent crime in the annual city-wide sweep. 5 offenders were arrested for parole violation and numerous others visited.

Six offenders from New Castle's minimum housing unit assisted in the setup and clean up of the New Castle's Art's Park Silent Auction this week.

Pendleton Juvenile's Boy Scout Troop #1888 recently had its Annual Camp out. The Scouts were involved in many activities throughout the evening and spent the night in individual tents located on the outside Recreation area.

The Oprah Show was at the Indiana State Prison filming and interviewing Offender Eric Wrinkles, who is currently on death row, about his crime and remorse. The show will be aired at a later date.

Eighteen Criminal Justice students from Franklin College toured the Edinburgh Correctional Facility. The students were allowed to talk to offenders about their incarceration and background.

South Bend Juvenile held its second Iron Chef competition for graduates of Aramark's IN2WORK culinary arts class. Four students competed in the 3-day cook-off, judged by Ivy Tech leaders, SBJ staff, and a student representative.

A Pendleton Correctional Facility off-grounds offender work crew recently replaced a roof on a maintenance building at the Indiana State Police Post # 52 in Indianapolis. This crew is also replacing a roof on a second building there.

Six New Castle staff played in State Representative Tom Saunders's Annual Golf Tournament held at Memorial Park.

Northeast Juvenile staff recently raised funds for Walk Now for Autism. Superintendent Donna Carneygee, Sergeant Waquanza Woods, and Recreation Leader Andre Patterson walked with 1,300 people for the cause.

September marks the 1-year anniversary of the F.I.D.O (Faith + Inmates + Dogs = Opportunity) prison dog program at CIF. In the last year, 47 dogs have come through the program. 32 have been adopted, while 15 are up for adoption.

RDC recently concluded a Bicycle Drive. Sixteen bicycles were collected and donated to the Shifting Gears program.

Northeast Juvenile Correctional Facility held a successful popcorn and bake sale to raise money for the SECC.

Westville Correctional Facility's Therapeutic Community hosted a Spelling Bee in recognition of National Recovery Month. Forty-nine offenders participated in the bee and a winner was announced.

Miami Correctional Facility hosted a PLUS graduation this week for the 46 offenders who completed the program. Dave Liebel, Deputy Director of Religious Services and Community Involvement, spoke at the event.

Five students and one staff member from Camp Summit participated in the "Adopt-A-Beach" clean-up program at Washington Park, Michigan City Beach. The students picked up trash on the beach and logged each item they picked up. The group picked up approximately 100 pounds of trash overall.

Indiana State Prison and Westville Correctional Facility held a Karaoke Challenge. Officer Debbie Raley from ISP came in first place, and WCC staff also showed great talent. This was the third challenge between the facilities.

Northeast Juvenile held its annual staff vs. students basketball game. The undefeated staff won, 45-39.

From the Office of Edwin G. Buss, Commissioner